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2 March 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: SCCL-FOI-2025/26-144

Thank you for your FOI request received by the FOI office for the following information: Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and SCCL are able to provide a response in blue below:

1. How many OEM consumables are on the NHSSC catalogue?
2. What proportion of OEM consumables on the NHSSC catalogue have one or more third party alternatives?
3. Does NHSSC actively promote third party consumables as a cost-saving measure for its customers?
4. In the calendar year 2025:
 - a. How many consumables were supplied to the NHS in England by NHSSC?
 - b. What proportion of consumables supplied to the NHS in England by NHSSC originated from a third party?
 - c. What was the saving to the NHS in England from the use of third-party alternatives?
 - d. How many adverse events were notified to NHSSC involving:
 - i. OEM consumables
 - ii. Third party consumables
5. When placing a third-party consumable on its catalogue what steps does NHSSC take to ensure that the third-party product meets the same standards of quality, safety, and performance as OEM products? I respectfully request a summary of relevant policies and procedures.
6. In the regretful circumstance that a third-party consumable supplied by NHSSC, used correctly according to its instructions for use, causes harm to a patient or member of staff, what liability would be accepted by NHSSC? (this is not a hypothetical question, the response should be defined within NHSSC contracts of supply).

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and SCCL are able to provide a response below:

Under Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, a public authority must confirm whether it holds the information requested and, if it does, communicate that information to the requester. In this case, SCCL does not hold a record that confirms attribute data classifying products as OEM or third-party consumables. To produce the information you have requested, SCCL would need to extract individual data from various sources, if held, and compile it into a new summary. The ICO's published

guidance makes clear that FOIA does not require public authorities to create new information, records or datasets in order to respond to a request, and a public authority is only obliged to provide information that it already holds at the time of the request. Accordingly, the specific information you have requested is not held within the meaning of Section 1 FOIA.

SCCL can confirm that all products OEM or 3rd party consumables must meet the same requirements, be that compliance to specification, product certification, and declarations on conformity that are requested as part of the tender.

We hope that this response addresses your request. However, if you are dissatisfied with this response, you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to the postal or e-mail addresses above, quoting the reference number above. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the handling of your information request will be reassessed by a member of SCCL staff who was not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you will have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

If you require any further information do not hesitate to contact the FOI team.

Yours sincerely

FOI Team

Supply Chain Coordination Limited
Management Function of NHS Supply Chain